

time police officer with the Cherry Valley Police Department in August 1986.

Throughout his years with the department, he has protected the Cherry Valley Community through his work on multiple task forces. From 1987 to 1990, Chief Houde was assigned to the State Line Area Narcotics Task Force and in 1995 he was assigned to the Northern Illinois Auto Theft Task Force.

On June 28, Police Chief Todd M. Houde retired from the Cherry Valley Police Department after thirty-two years of service.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th District of Illinois, I wish to express our deepest thanks to Chief Houde for devoting his life's work to protecting and serving his community.

HONORING LT. COL. ADAM J.  
KIMMICH, U.S. ARMY

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 9, 2013*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the promotion of Major Adam J. Kimmich, to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

This Thursday, July 11, 2013, it will be my great honor to preside over his promotion ceremony and celebrate his exceptional accomplishment of service and dedication to this great nation.

Though he currently works as an Operations Officer at US Special Operations Command, Kimmich has served in many capacities throughout the world. In 1997, he began his career in the Army as an Infantry Officer at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii, and has since been promoted to positions including Rifle Platoon Leader, Assistant Battalion Operations Officer, Commander, Operations Officer in Special Operations Command, and Battalion Operations Officer in the Philippines, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. Kimmich also served in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom.

His awards and decorations include the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, multiple Army Commendation Medals and Army Achievement Medals, as well as the Iraq Campaign Medal, GWOT Campaign and GWOT Expeditionary Medals, and 5 Overseas Service Ribbons. He has earned the Special Forces Tab, Ranger Tab, Parachutists Badge, Air Assault Badge, and Expert Infantryman's Badge.

Adam's parents, John and Barbara Kimmich of Kennesaw, Georgia, should be proud to know that their guidance has led their son to stand for the principles this country cherishes most, and the freedom of its people. His path has not been easy, but Adam's valor and sense of duty have led him to overcome obstacles that most of us could never imagine.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th District of Georgia, I extend my deepest gratitude to Lieutenant Colonel Kimmich for devoting his life to upholding the Constitution of the United States and making the world a safer place. Again, I congratulate him on this well-deserved promotion.

HONORING RICHARD MICHALSKI

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 9, 2013*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of my friend Richard Michalski. Rich is retiring after over 40 years of service with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM).

I had the pleasure of first meeting Rich when I was elected to Congress nearly 20 years ago. I have always appreciated his honesty, straightforward approach, and wise counsel.

Rich was first initiated into IAM Local Lodge 1916 and worked as a welder at General Electric in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1968. He held several positions in his local lodge, including steward, chairman of the bargaining committee, and president.

Rich has always been involved at the grass roots level, volunteering many hours promoting the rights and representation of all workers.

Rich became the Director of the Legislative and Political Action Department at IAM in 1992. In this capacity, he was involved on a daily basis with legislation that affects working men and women.

Rich joined the ranks of the IAM's Executive Board as the General Vice President in charge of IAM Headquarters in 2006.

I want to thank Rich for his lifelong commitment to supporting labor rights, promoting fair trade and boosting U.S. exports. I congratulate Rich and wish him the best in his much deserved retirement.

IN HONOR OF ALAN BALDRIDGE

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 9, 2013*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th birthday of Alan Baldrige, a leading environmental conservationist, naturalist, educator and dedicated community activist in my Central California Coast district.

Alan Baldrige and his wife Sheila immigrated to the United States from England in 1962 so that Alan could work as a history and literature reference librarian in Portland Oregon's public library. Four years later, the couple moved to Pacific Grove, CA to allow Alan to take over the library at Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station. Through his tireless work as a librarian, Alan has been able to use his expansive scientific expertise to inspire and assist countless marine biologists and researchers. An expert on ecology, biology and conservation Alan wrote *The Bird Year* published in 1980; co-authored the definitive book on Monterey Bay birds, and co-authored *Gray Whales* in 1991 and 2006.

Alan's careful observation of seabirds and marine mammals made him not only an educator and librarian, but also a naturalist and local authority on the incredible array of animals that fly, swim and wash up on the shores of Monterey Bay. He has served as a naturalist on a number of Stanford alumni trips to

the Sea of Cortez, Alaska and ice sheets off eastern Canada. Alan has readily shared his vast knowledge with countless members of the community, including scientists, students, government officials and reporters. Throughout his time in Monterey, Alan served as a liaison to the fishing community, and many records of rare seabirds first came to the attention of researchers and birders alike through Alan's efforts to acquire and pass on information. Alan's other work as a Regional Editor for Audubon Field Notes/American Birds for Northern California, seabird editor for the Middle Pacific Coast Region for 12 seasons and member of the editorial board for the first three volumes of *California Birds*, made Alan an integral contributor to the birding community.

A long-time leading environmental activist, Alan has utilized his expertise in order to support conservation movements in the area. A leading advocate for establishing the Elkhorn Slough National Marine Estuarine Reserve, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, the Monarch Grove Sanctuary and an instrumental asset in raising funds for the construction of the Harold A. Miller Library of Marine Biology, Alan's dedication to protecting the marine environment of his community has been unrivaled.

After 23 years as librarian at Hopkins Marine Station, Alan retired in 1994. He and his wife Sheila continue to promote educational efforts to create an understanding of the marine environment of their community.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in wishing Alan Baldrige well and to thank him for his invaluable and tireless work on behalf of his community.

CELEBRATING BILL GRAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 8, 2013*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, we were all shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden and untimely passing of former Congressman William "Bill" Gray, a former member of the Congressional Black Caucus who represented Philadelphia in the House of Representatives for many years in stellar fashion.

William Gray was a trailblazer for African Americans and other minorities in Congress, an inspirational pastor, a persuasive advocate for education of minorities and the poor and for causes where often others feared to tread. He was a steadfast friend to countless of us and the epitome of a servant-leader.

My first recollection of meeting him personally was poolside at the then St. John Virgin Grande Hotel with his and my long time friends Orville and Julie Kean. He had a home in St. John at the time.

We talked late into the night and he often referred to me as a St. Croix Nationalist many times after that. I was also always proud of his calling me his Congresswoman, even after he sold the St. John home. And it was just days before he was suddenly taken from us that in the Members Dining room he remarked that he would be visiting our Islands in the near future. Sadly that will not happen.